

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 23 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/023,911

Confirmation No. 4817

Applicants: Kit Yeng Lim et al.

Filed : December 18, 2001

TC/A.U. : 3732

Examiner : Anuradha Ramana

Docket No. : 2026-00900

Customer No.:

Title: Apparatus And Method To Stabilize And Repair An Intervertebral Disc

## RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2004

Our File: 2026-00900

Date: July 23, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge the Final Office Action dated February 24, 2004. In response, Applicants submit the following arguments and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.